

NEWS RELEASE

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DEC. 9, 2010

MEDIA CONTACT:

Molly Deuberry

Communications Director

Indianapolis Department of Public Works

molly.deuberry@indy.gov; C: (317) 677-6469

CITY ENCOURAGES SUSTAINABILITY AWARD APPLICATIONS

Award applications due Feb. 4; Award luncheon on March 24

INDIANAPOLIS – As 2010 comes to a close, Mayor Greg Ballard and Kären Haley, director of the Office of Sustainability, are reminding local businesses, not-for-profits, community groups and schools to evaluate their sustainability efforts for the past year and encouraging organizations with a strong 2010 effort to submit an application for the 2010 Indianapolis Sustainability Awards.

"The awards recognize organizations that make a commitment to improving our environment and contribute to making Indianapolis a better place in which to live and do business," said Mayor Ballard.

The awards, presented by the Office of Sustainability, McKinney Green Initiatives Fund and the Greater Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce, are designed to inspire innovation, showcase impact, reward leadership and promote education around the principles of sustainability. Projects must have been completed in Marion County between Jan. 1, 2010, and Dec. 31, 2010. Applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Feb. 4, 2011.

"We want to recognize businesses and organizations that have implemented sustainable initiatives and projects over the past year," said Haley. "There are many fantastic ideas put into motion every day that help contribute to our community's sustainability, and I encourage you to not only think about your own habits, but those of your clients and colleagues."

Five awards will be given to honor excellence, in the water, land, air, energy and reduce, reuse, recycle categories.

Last year more than 70 applicants were narrowed to the five winners, and even more are anticipated to participate this year in the awards program sponsored by Citizens Energy Group, HNTB Corporation, IPL and Performance Services.

The 2010 Indianapolis Sustainability Awards will be presented by Mayor Ballard a March 24 luncheon, held at the Indianapolis Marriott Downtown. The awards will again be emceed by local green living expert Sara Snow. For tickets and sponsorship information or to apply for a Sustainability Award, visit www.sustainindy.org/awards.

To learn about how Mayor Ballard is creating a more sustainable Indianapolis, visit www.sustainindy.org

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